NEWS RELEASE

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CITY EMPLOYEES FACE OFF AGAINST CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMPETITORS FOR SECOND ANNUAL "RUSH HOUR CHALLENGE"

Proceeds to benefit the 12th Annual "Harvest for Hunger" food drive

Cleveland, March 6, 2003 - Mayor Jane L. Campbell, Public Sector Co-Chair of the annual Harvest for Hunger campaign, joined Jimmy Dimora, President of the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners, today extending an open invitation to Greater Clevelanders to take part in the second annual "Rush Hour Challenge." Proceeds from the event will benefit the annual food drive.

The event is scheduled to take place on Thursday, March 13, 2002, between 7:00 – 9:00 a.m., along Lakeside Ave., between Cleveland City Hall and the Cuyahoga County Administration Building. City employees will be at curbside in front of Mall C, while their County competitors take their place at curbside in front of Mall B.

"We're the 2002 champs to beat hunger, and we intended to maintain our numberone ranking in 2003," said Mayor Jane L. Campbell. "I invite all morning commuters who work and do business in the downtown area to join us for this friendly competition." "Support this effort to raise \$10,000 in food and funds by donating funds or non-perishable food items as you drive by our City drop-off points."

The value of one dollar can go a long way. The Cleveland Foodbank can purchase:

- 6 jars of peanut butter
- 19 cans of tuna fish, or
- **7** boxes of pasta

If commuters prefer, they can also donate any of the following "super six" food items:

- Boxed or canned baby food
- Canned vegetables
- Peanut butter
- Canned beef stew
- Canned tuna fish
- Boxed pasta

"We already upped the ante on the City's side of the street, said Mayor Campbell. "The first 75 commuters and passerbys that donate will receive Cleveland's own tasty Buettner's Bakery or Wojtila Bakery donuts. We also have a donation of carnations from the Import Connection. Now, you just can't pass that up, can you?"

"The County Commissioners and our County employees are pleased to once again show our enthusiasm for those in need as we participate in our friendly rivalry with the City of Cleveland," said Commissioner Dimora. "We encourage all downtown commuters to take a few moments to drop off food donations and/or monetary contributions for this outstanding food drive – but, only, of course, on the county side of the street! There will be free donuts – Krispy Kreme – and free coffee – compliments of Van Rooy – as incentives to lure in our donations! But the greatest incentives are the kind and caring hearts of our community – they always come through with generosity – and Harvest for Hunger is the true winner!"

Every dollar donated will enable Harvest for Hunger to acquire more than two pounds of food.

People who would like to make a donation to Harvest for Hunger and will not be commuting down to Lakeside Ave. on March 13th can:

- Mail donations to PO Box 318005, Independence, Ohio 44131
- Make donations online at <u>www.harvestforhunger.org</u>.
- Drop off food donations or make cash donations at the registers of all Dave's, Giant Eagle, Tops, Fisher Foods, Heinen's, and Acme.

Ninety-three cents of every dollar goes directly to the purchase of food!